



Town of Groton, Connecticut

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk 860-441-6640
Town Manager
860-441-6630

Meeting Minutes

Representative Town Meeting

Moderator Christine Conley, Representatives Karin Adams, Jean-Claude Ambroise, Joseph Baril, Alicia Bauer, Susan Deane-Shinbrot, Luanne E. DeMatto, John A. Espada, Robert M. Garcia, Patrice Granatosky, Dolores Harrell, Conrad F. Heede, Lynn Crockett Hubbard, Matthew G. Longino, Jim Loughlin, Lisa M. Luck, Brandon Marley, Jackie Massett, Bruce A. McDermott, Roscoe Merritt, Scott Meyer, Douglas Monaghan, Karen Morton, Kathy Neugent, Scott Newsome, Juliette M. Parker, Richard J. Pasqualini, Jr., Shawn Powers, John F. Scott IV, Richard Semeraro, Bill Smith, Judith Strode, Mark Svencer, Archie C. Swindell, Fred Turnbull, Patricia Wagner, Lori A. Watrous, Ivy R. Williams and Jonathan E. Wilson

Wednesday, July 9, 2014

7:30 PM

Groton Senior Center

Regular Meeting

A. ROLL CALL

*Moderator Conley called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
25 members were present and a quorum was declared.*

Members Present: Moderator Conley, Rep. Adams, Rep. Bauer, Rep. Deane-Shinbrot, Rep. DeMatto, Rep. Granatosky, Rep. Hubbard, Rep. Longino, Rep. Loughlin, Rep. Luck, Rep. Marley, Rep. McDermott, Rep. Merritt, Rep. Meyer, Rep. Monaghan, Rep. Morton, Rep. Neugent, Rep. Parker, Rep. Pasqualini Jr., Rep. Powers, Rep. Scott, Rep. Semeraro, Rep. Smith, Rep. Turnbull and Rep. Wilson

Members Absent: Rep. Ambroise, Rep. Baril, Rep. Espada, Rep. Garcia, Rep. Harrell, Rep. Heede, Rep. Massett, Rep. Newsome, Rep. Strode, Rep. Svencer, Rep. Swindell, Rep. Wagner, Rep. Watrous and Rep. Williams

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Town Mayor Rita Schmidt, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Assistant Town Clerk Dawn Rahilly.

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The members joined the Moderator in the Salute to the Flag.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 11, 2014

A motion that the minutes be approved was made by Rep. Scott, seconded by Rep. DeMatto. The vote on approval of the minutes carried 24 in favor, 1 abstention. (Abstaining: Rep. Monaghan.)

D. CITIZENS' PETITIONS

None.

E. RECEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS

Reps. Espada, Garcia, Harrell, Heede, Massett, Svencer, Wagner and Watrous notified the Town Clerk they are not able to attend the meeting.

F. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

1. Financial report

Mr. Oefinger reported that the Fund Balance as of June 30, 2014 (unaudited) is approximately \$10.3 million; theFYE 2014 General Contingency function is now at zero, after the RTM approved the transfer of \$335,350 from General Contingency and \$69,820 from Public Safety to cover the City-Town Highway mediation award, and additional expenses associated with snow/ice removal ; the Capital Reserve balance as of June 30, 2014 is \$2,804,120.

2. Monthly briefing

The Town Manager highlighted various items from the Town Manager's News including the explanation that the Town was unable to 'nest' the real estate and motor vehicle tax bills because

of the number of taxing districts; the Streetscape project is moving along well, and should be completed by next week; and Mr. Oefinger welcomed Bill Robarge as the Assistant Director of Public Works.

Rep. Parker left at 7:40 p.m. 24 members present.

In response to Rep. Pasqualini's question, Mr. Oefinger praised the contractors associated with the Streetscape project, and noted the majority of the delays had nothing to do with the contractors.

Rep. Pasqualini also questioned the Town Manager about the Poquonnock Bridge Fire Department firefighter's pension being in the Town's pension plan. Mr Oefinger responded the Town administers the pension plan, but is not responsible, and does not carry any liability if it is not funded properly.

G. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

None.

H. LIAISON REPORTS

Rep. Scott noted the Economic Development Corporation Task Force has tried to meet four times, and has not had a quorum. The next meeting will be next week, and he urges all members to attend.

I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. FINANCE - Chairman Granatosky

Chairman Granatosky read the minutes of the meeting held on July 9, 2014. (Minutes are attached to the permanent record.)

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rep. Granatosky, seconded by Reps. Hubbard/Adams and so voted unanimously.

2014-0171 Non-union salaries and benefits

COMPARISON OF NON-UNION SALARIES AND BENEFITS TO PRIVATE SECTOR AND OTHER MUNICIPALITIES

2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES -Chairman Semeraro

No meeting; no report.

3. EDUCATION - Chairman Swindell

No meeting; no report.

4. RECREATION - Chairman Svencer

No meeting; no report.

5. PUBLIC SAFETY - Chairman Pasqualini

Chairman Pasqualini reported that the Public Safety Committee met this evening at 6:30. Police Chief Smith was in attendance. Several aspects of community policing were discussed. It was decided more information was needed on a number of issues, and the meeting was suspended at 7:15 p.m. The committee will meet again in September when they have more information.

2014-0172 Community Policing in Certain Neighborhoods

COMMUNITY POLICING IN CERTAIN NEIGHBORHOODS

6. PUBLIC WORKS - Chairman Heede

No meeting; no report.

7. RULES & PROCEDURES - Chairman Ambroise

No meeting; no report.

J. BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

None.

K. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. was made by Rep. Monaghan, seconded by Rep. Meyers and so voted unanimously.

Attest:

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk
Clerk of the RTM*

Dawn G. Rahilly, Assistant Town Clerk